

June 24, 2021
Maine Milk Commission Meeting Minutes
Held Remotely via Teams
Augusta, Maine 04333

Notices for the June 24, 2021 meeting were distributed to Commission members, intervenors and other interested parties on May 20, 2021 and sent to the Secretary of State's Office for posting on May 20, 2021.

Commission Present: Mike Wiers, Stanley Millay, Colon Durrell, Richard Cook and Matt Randall.

Commission Absent: None

Department Officials: None

Staff Present: Tim Drake, Executive Director, Carol Gauthier, Office Associate, II, and Joy Bonenfant, Resource Administrator

Legal Counsel: Caleb Elwell

Others Present: Julie-Marie Bickford, MDIA, Gary Anderson, member of the public/contractor, John Blake, H.P. Hood, Meredith Fahey, Maine Dairy Promotion Board and Nutrition Council and Mike Benar of Oakhurst.

Chairman Wiers called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m.

Agenda Item 1: Minutes: Colon Durrell made a motion to accept the minutes of the May 20, 2021 meeting. Dr. Cook seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0 by roll call vote.

Agenda Item 2: Caleb Elwell, Assistant Attorney General: Caleb reported that LD32 was enacted which will make holding meetings remotely after 7/31/21 optional in emergency situations.

Agenda Item 3: Minimum Prices:

Tim Drake reported a prevailing premium of \$1.04/cwt. on Class I for July 2021, Agri-Mark and DFA reported no changes for July 2021. Federal Order One Class I price for July 2021 is \$20.67, a decrease of \$0.87/cwt. He explained that a schedule was prepared using this information plus a producer cost of production adjustment (COPA) of \$1.63/cwt. He stated that this price schedule was for informational purposes and that the Commission was not bound to it, and they should make their pricing determination after hearing testimony.

Chairman Wiers asked for testimony.

Julie-Marie Bickford stated that the drop in price was a blow to the heart for her and Maine Dairy producers. She reported that she had attended a meeting hosted by Farm Credit East which showed profits for Maine dairy farms, but that was due to the Federal payments to farms during the past year. She was anxious about this Fall with higher fuel, feed and labor costs would greatly affect the farms.

No other testimony was offered.

Chairman Wiers asked for a motion.

Dr. Richard Cook made the motion to accept order #07-21 with a Commission premium of \$1.04/cwt. and a COPA of \$1.63/cwt.

Colon Durrell seconded the motion.

The motion passed 4-0 by roll call vote.

Agenda Item 4: Maine Monthly Price Survey: Tim Drake stated that he had performed a price survey in all areas of the state as normal. The IAMCA price survey was not available.

Agenda Item 5: Next Scheduled Meetings:

- July 22, 2021, 10:30 A.M., Room 106, Deering Building, Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry, Augusta, ME
- August 19, 2021, 10:30 A.M., Room 106, Deering Building, Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry, Augusta, ME
- September 23, 2021, 10:30 A.M., Room 106, Deering Building, Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry, Augusta, ME
- October 21, 2021, 10:30 A.M., Room 101, Deering Building, Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry, Augusta, ME

Agenda Item 6: Other

- A. **FY 2021 Financial Report**, No discussion.
- B. **IAMCA** Tim Drake reported that the Annual meeting had been postponed until next July due to travel restrictions to and from Canada. The meeting is scheduled to be held in Prince Edward Island July 17, 18, and 19, 2022.
- C. **Chapter 26, Producer Margins**, No verbal testimony nor any written testimony was offered in the prescribed timeframe which made a vote possible today for the Commission. The proposed rule was adopted unanimously by a roll call vote. Tim Drake will file the necessary paperwork for a major substantive rule with the Legislative Council and the Secretary of State.
- D. **Dealer Margins**, Tim Drake reported that one proposal was submitted for the Dealer Margins RFP and that Herbein & Co. had been awarded the contract, the contract can be renewed in 3 years when the next study is due.

Agenda Item 7: Executive Session: None

Adjourned: Adjourned; 10:52 a.m. June 24, 2021.
Tim Drake, Maine Milk Commission